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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 253
By Norris

A RESOLUTION To honor and congratulate the St. George's Day School Chess Team on winning the Second Grade Division of the National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship Chess Tournament.

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor our outstanding youth groups, and their individual members who through their natural talents and unwavering commitment have achieved excellence in academics and extra curricular activities and are a credit to their respective families, schools, and communities; and

WHEREAS, One such remarkable group of young people is the St. George's Day School Chess Team, which captured the prestigious National Scholastic Chess Championship in the Second Grade Division; the competition was held the 15th through the 17th of December, 2000 in Orlando, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Competing in a division with 26 different second grade teams and 139 second grade students, many of whom were from cities with much larger populations and more

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active chess communities than Memphis, Forrest Baty, Cabell Brown, and Matthew Ernst distinguished themselves by winning the National Title for their age group; and

WHEREAS, Although St. George's trailed two New York City schools going into the sixth and final round, the remarkable St. George's Students swept all three of their final matches to win the title; in the primary division, St. George's Day School was the only school outside of New York City to win a National Team Title; and

WHEREAS, With only the top three student scores in the tournament counting towards the final result, schools entered as many students as they could to achieve the best possible outcome; the St. George's students' achievement is particularly impressive because they had only three students competing; the second and third place finishers each had several more students on their teams; and

WHEREAS, Through countless hours of practice and untiring commitment of time and talent, the St. George's Day School Chess Team has achieved extraordinary success in competition and has joined the ranks of the elite of chess; and

WHEREAS, The team's overall strength and consistency played an integral role in their success; each member exemplifies the spirit and dedication that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, The St. George's Day School Chess Team members' display of intellectual prowess and inner drive at such a young age surely bodes well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, The Team's significant achievement is a tremendous source of pride for their families, their school, and their community; and

WHEREAS, The St. George's Chess Team's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend the St. George's Day School Chess

Team on winning the Second Grade Division of the National Scholastic K-12 Grade Championship Chess Tournament and wish Forrest Baty, Cabell Brown, and Matthew Ernst every continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.